



# House of Representatives

General Assembly

**File No. 493**

February Session, 2014

Substitute House Bill No. 5043

*House of Representatives, April 10, 2014*

The Committee on Education reported through REP. FLEISCHMANN of the 18th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the House, that the substitute bill ought to pass.

## ***AN ACT IMPLEMENTING THE BUDGET RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE GOVERNOR CONCERNING EDUCATION.***

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Section 10-264~~l~~ of the 2014 supplement to the general  
2 statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof  
3 (*Effective July 1, 2014*):

4 (a) The Department of Education shall, within available  
5 appropriations, establish a grant program (1) to assist (A) local and  
6 regional boards of education, (B) regional educational service centers,  
7 (C) the Board of Trustees of the Community-Technical Colleges on  
8 behalf of Quinebaug Valley Community College and Three Rivers  
9 Community College, and (D) cooperative arrangements pursuant to  
10 section 10-158a, and (2) in assisting the state in meeting the goals of the  
11 2008 stipulation and order for Milo Sheff, et al. v. William A. O'Neill, et  
12 al., as extended, as determined by the Commissioner of Education, to  
13 assist (A) the Board of Trustees of the Community-Technical Colleges

14 on behalf of a regional community-technical college, (B) the Board of  
15 Trustees of the Connecticut State University System on behalf of a state  
16 university, (C) the Board of Trustees of The University of Connecticut  
17 on behalf of the university, (D) the board of governors for an  
18 independent college or university, as defined in section 10a-37, or the  
19 equivalent of such a board, on behalf of the independent college or  
20 university, and (E) any other third-party not-for-profit corporation  
21 approved by the commissioner with the operation of interdistrict  
22 magnet school programs. All interdistrict magnet schools shall be  
23 operated in conformance with the same laws and regulations  
24 applicable to public schools. For the purposes of this section "an  
25 interdistrict magnet school program" means a program which (i)  
26 supports racial, ethnic and economic diversity, (ii) offers a special and  
27 high quality curriculum, and (iii) requires students who are enrolled to  
28 attend at least half-time. An interdistrict magnet school program does  
29 not include a regional agricultural science and technology school, a  
30 technical high school or a regional special education center. On and  
31 after July 1, 2000, the governing authority for each interdistrict magnet  
32 school program that is in operation prior to July 1, 2005, shall restrict  
33 the number of students that may enroll in the program from a  
34 participating district to eighty per cent of the total enrollment of the  
35 program. The governing authority for each interdistrict magnet school  
36 program that begins operations on or after July 1, 2005, shall restrict  
37 the number of students that may enroll in the program from a  
38 participating district to seventy-five per cent of the total enrollment of  
39 the program, and maintain such a school enrollment that at least  
40 twenty-five per cent but not more than seventy-five per cent of the  
41 students enrolled are pupils of racial minorities, as defined in section  
42 10-226a. The governing authority of an interdistrict magnet school that  
43 the commissioner determines will assist the state in meeting the goals  
44 of the 2008 stipulation and order for Milo Sheff, et al. v. William A.  
45 O'Neill, et al., as extended, or the goals of the 2013 stipulation and  
46 order for Milo Sheff, et al. v. William A. O'Neill, et al., shall restrict the  
47 number of students that may enroll in the program from a  
48 participating district in accordance with the provisions of this

49 subsection, provided such enrollment is in accordance with the  
50 reduced-isolation setting standards of such 2013 stipulation and order.

51 (b) (1) Applications for interdistrict magnet school program  
52 operating grants awarded pursuant to this section shall be submitted  
53 annually to the Commissioner of Education at such time and in such  
54 manner as the commissioner prescribes, except that on and after July 1,  
55 2009, applications for such operating grants for new interdistrict  
56 magnet schools, other than those that the commissioner determines  
57 will assist the state in meeting the goals of the 2008 stipulation and  
58 order for Milo Sheff, et al. v. William A. O'Neill, et al., as extended, or  
59 the goals of the 2013 stipulation and order for Milo Sheff, et al. v.  
60 William A. O'Neill, et al., shall not be accepted until the commissioner  
61 develops a comprehensive state-wide interdistrict magnet school plan.  
62 The commissioner shall submit such comprehensive state-wide  
63 interdistrict magnet school plan on or before January 1, 2011, to the  
64 joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance  
65 of matters relating to education.

66 (2) In determining whether an application shall be approved and  
67 funds awarded pursuant to this section, the commissioner shall  
68 consider, but such consideration shall not be limited to: (A) Whether  
69 the program offered by the school is likely to increase student  
70 achievement; (B) whether the program is likely to reduce racial, ethnic  
71 and economic isolation; (C) the percentage of the student enrollment in  
72 the program from each participating district; and (D) the proposed  
73 operating budget and the sources of funding for the interdistrict  
74 magnet school. For a magnet school not operated by a local or regional  
75 board of education, the commissioner shall only approve a proposed  
76 operating budget that, on a per pupil basis, does not exceed the  
77 maximum allowable threshold established in accordance with this  
78 subdivision. The maximum allowable threshold shall be an amount  
79 equal to one hundred twenty per cent of the state average of the  
80 quotient obtained by dividing net current expenditures, as defined in  
81 section 10-261, by average daily membership, as defined in said  
82 section, for the fiscal year two years prior to the fiscal year for which

83 the operating grant is requested. The Department of Education shall  
84 establish the maximum allowable threshold no later than December  
85 fifteenth of the fiscal year prior to the fiscal year for which the  
86 operating grant is requested. If requested by an applicant that is not a  
87 local or regional board of education, the commissioner may approve a  
88 proposed operating budget that exceeds the maximum allowable  
89 threshold if the commissioner determines that there are extraordinary  
90 programmatic needs. In the case of an interdistrict magnet school that  
91 will assist the state in meeting the goals of the 2008 stipulation and  
92 order for Milo Sheff, et al. v. William A. O'Neill, et al., as extended, or  
93 the goals of the 2013 stipulation and order for Milo Sheff, et al. v.  
94 William A. O'Neill, et al., as determined by the commissioner, the  
95 commissioner shall also consider whether the school is meeting the  
96 [desegregation] reduced-isolation setting standards set forth in [said]  
97 such 2013 stipulation and order. If such school has not met the  
98 [desegregation] reduced-isolation setting standards [by the second  
99 year of operation] prescribed in such 2013 stipulation and order, it  
100 shall not be entitled to receive a grant pursuant to this section unless  
101 the commissioner finds that it is appropriate to award a grant for an  
102 additional year or years for purposes of compliance with [said] such  
103 2013 stipulation and order. If requested by the commissioner, the  
104 applicant shall meet with the commissioner or the commissioner's  
105 designee to discuss the budget and sources of funding.

106 (3) Except as provided in this section, section 197 of public act 11-48  
107 and the 2013 stipulation and order for Milo Sheff, et al. v. William A.  
108 O'Neill, et al., the commissioner shall not award a grant to (A) a  
109 program that is in operation prior to July 1, 2005, if more than eighty  
110 per cent of its total enrollment is from one school district, except that  
111 the commissioner may award a grant for good cause, for any one year,  
112 on behalf of an otherwise eligible magnet school program, if more than  
113 eighty per cent of the total enrollment is from one district, [ The  
114 commissioner shall not award a grant to] and (B) a program that  
115 begins operations on or after July 1, 2005, if more than seventy-five per  
116 cent of its total enrollment is from one school district or if less than  
117 twenty-five or more than seventy-five per cent of the students enrolled

118 are pupils of racial minorities, as defined in section 10-226a, except that  
119 the commissioner may award a grant for good cause, for one year, on  
120 behalf of an otherwise eligible interdistrict magnet school program, if  
121 more than seventy-five per cent of the total enrollment is from one  
122 district or less than twenty-five or more than seventy-five per cent of  
123 the students enrolled are pupils of racial minorities. The commissioner  
124 may not award grants pursuant to [such an exception for a second  
125 consecutive year] the exceptions described in subparagraphs (A) and  
126 (B) of this subdivision for an additional consecutive year or years,  
127 except as provided for in section 197 of public act 11-48, the 2008  
128 stipulation for Milo Sheff, et al. v. William A. O'Neill, et al., as  
129 extended, or the 2013 stipulation and order for Milo Sheff, et al. v.  
130 William A. O'Neill, et al., as determined by the commissioner.

131 (c) (1) The maximum amount each interdistrict magnet school  
132 program, except those described in subparagraphs (A) to (F), inclusive,  
133 of subdivision (3) of this subsection, shall be eligible to receive per  
134 enrolled student who is not a resident of the town operating the  
135 magnet school shall be (A) six thousand sixteen dollars for the fiscal  
136 year ending June 30, 2008, (B) six thousand seven hundred thirty  
137 dollars for the fiscal years ending June 30, 2009, to June 30, 2012,  
138 inclusive, and (C) seven thousand eighty-five dollars for the fiscal year  
139 ending June 30, 2013, and each fiscal year thereafter. The per pupil  
140 grant for each enrolled student who is a resident of the town operating  
141 the magnet school program shall be three thousand dollars for the  
142 fiscal year ending June 30, 2008, and each fiscal year thereafter.

143 (2) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2003, and each fiscal year  
144 thereafter, the commissioner may, within available appropriations,  
145 provide supplemental grants for the purposes of enhancing  
146 educational programs in such interdistrict magnet schools, as the  
147 commissioner determines. Such grants shall be made after the  
148 commissioner has conducted a comprehensive financial review and  
149 approved the total operating budget for such schools, including all  
150 revenue and expenditure estimates.

151       (3) (A) Except as otherwise provided in subparagraphs (C) to (F),  
152 inclusive, of this subdivision, each interdistrict magnet school operated  
153 by a regional educational service center that enrolls less than fifty-five  
154 per cent of the school's students from a single town shall receive a per  
155 pupil grant in the amount of (i) six thousand two hundred fifty dollars  
156 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2006, (ii) six thousand five hundred  
157 dollars for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2007, (iii) seven thousand  
158 sixty dollars for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2008, (iv) seven  
159 thousand six hundred twenty dollars for the fiscal years ending June  
160 30, 2009, to June 30, 2012, inclusive, and (v) seven thousand nine  
161 hundred dollars for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2013, and each fiscal  
162 year thereafter.

163       (B) Except as otherwise provided in subparagraphs (C) to (F),  
164 inclusive, of this subdivision, each interdistrict magnet school operated  
165 by a regional educational service center that enrolls at least fifty-five  
166 per cent of the school's students from a single town shall receive a per  
167 pupil grant for each enrolled student who is not a resident of the  
168 district that enrolls at least fifty-five per cent of the school's students in  
169 the amount of (i) six thousand sixteen dollars for the fiscal year ending  
170 June 30, 2008, (ii) six thousand seven hundred thirty dollars for the  
171 fiscal years ending June 30, 2009, to June 30, 2012, inclusive, and (iii)  
172 seven thousand eighty-five dollars for the fiscal year ending June 30,  
173 2013, and each fiscal year thereafter. The per pupil grant for each  
174 enrolled student who is a resident of the district that enrolls at least  
175 fifty-five per cent of the school's students shall be three thousand  
176 dollars.

177       (C) Each interdistrict magnet school operated by a regional  
178 educational service center that began operations for the school year  
179 commencing July 1, 2001, and that for the school year commencing  
180 July 1, 2008, enrolled at least fifty-five per cent, but no more than  
181 eighty per cent of the school's students from a single town shall receive  
182 a per pupil grant for each enrolled student who is a resident of the  
183 district that enrolls at least fifty-five per cent, but no more than eighty  
184 per cent of the school's students in the amount of eight thousand one

185 hundred eighty dollars for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2013, and  
186 each fiscal year thereafter, and a per pupil grant for each enrolled  
187 student who is not a resident of the district that enrolls at least fifty-  
188 five per cent, but no more than eighty per cent of the school's students  
189 in the amount of eight thousand one hundred eighty dollars for the  
190 fiscal year ending June 30, 2013, and each fiscal year thereafter.

191 (D) Each interdistrict magnet school operated by (i) a regional  
192 educational service center, (ii) the Board of Trustees of the  
193 Community-Technical Colleges on behalf of a regional community-  
194 technical college, (iii) the Board of Trustees of the Connecticut State  
195 University System on behalf of a state university, (iv) the Board of  
196 Trustees for The University of Connecticut on behalf of the university,  
197 (v) the board of governors for an independent college or university, as  
198 defined in section 10a-37, or the equivalent of such a board, on behalf  
199 of the independent college or university, (vi) cooperative arrangements  
200 pursuant to section 10-158a, (vii) any other third-party not-for-profit  
201 corporation approved by the commissioner, and (viii) the Hartford  
202 school district for the operation of Great Path Academy on behalf of  
203 Manchester Community College, that enrolls less than sixty per cent of  
204 its students from Hartford pursuant to the 2008 stipulation and order  
205 for Milo Sheff, et al. v. William A. O'Neill, et al., as extended, or the  
206 2013 stipulation and order for Milo Sheff, et al. v. William A. O'Neill, et  
207 al., shall receive a per pupil grant in the amount of (I) nine thousand  
208 six hundred ninety-five dollars for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2010,  
209 and (II) ten thousand four hundred forty-three dollars for the fiscal  
210 years ending June 30, 2011, to June 30, 2015, inclusive.

211 (E) Each interdistrict magnet school operated by a local or regional  
212 board of education, pursuant to the 2008 stipulation and order for Milo  
213 Sheff, et al. v. William A. O'Neill, et al., as extended, or the 2013  
214 stipulation and order for Milo Sheff, et al. v. William A. O'Neill, et al.,  
215 shall receive a per pupil grant for each enrolled student who is not a  
216 resident of the district in the amount of (i) twelve thousand dollars for  
217 the fiscal year ending June 30, 2010, and (ii) thirteen thousand fifty-  
218 four dollars for the fiscal years ending June 30, 2011, to June 30, 2015,

219 inclusive.

220 (F) In addition to the grants described in subparagraph (E) of this  
221 subdivision, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2010, the commissioner  
222 may, subject to the approval of the Secretary of the Office of Policy and  
223 Management and the Finance Advisory Committee, established  
224 pursuant to section 4-93, provide supplemental grants to the Hartford  
225 school district of up to one thousand fifty-four dollars for each student  
226 enrolled at an interdistrict magnet school operated by the Hartford  
227 school district who is not a resident of such district.

228 (4) The amounts of the grants determined pursuant to this  
229 subsection shall be proportionately adjusted, if necessary, within  
230 available appropriations, and in no case shall any grant pursuant to  
231 this section exceed the reasonable operating budget of the interdistrict  
232 magnet school program, less revenues from other sources. Any  
233 interdistrict magnet school program operating less than full-time, but  
234 at least half-time, shall be eligible to receive a grant equal to sixty-five  
235 per cent of the grant amount determined pursuant to this subsection.

236 (5) Within available appropriations, the commissioner may make  
237 grants to the following entities that operate an interdistrict magnet  
238 school that assists the state in meeting the goals of the 2008 stipulation  
239 and order for Milo Sheff, et al. v. William A. O'Neill, et al., as extended,  
240 or the goals of the 2013 stipulation and order for Milo Sheff, et al. v.  
241 William A. O'Neill, et al., as determined by the commissioner and that  
242 provide academic support programs and summer school educational  
243 programs approved by the commissioner to students participating in  
244 such interdistrict magnet school program: (A) Regional educational  
245 service centers, (B) local and regional boards of education, (C) the  
246 Board of Trustees of the Community-Technical Colleges on behalf of a  
247 regional community-technical college, (D) the Board of Trustees of the  
248 Connecticut State University System on behalf of a state university, (E)  
249 the Board of Trustees for The University of Connecticut on behalf of  
250 the university, (F) the board of governors for an independent college or  
251 university, as defined in section 10a-37, or the equivalent of such a



252 board, on behalf of the independent college or university, (G)  
253 cooperative arrangements pursuant to section 10-158a, and (H) any  
254 other third-party not-for-profit corporation approved by the  
255 commissioner.

256 (6) Within available appropriations, the Commissioner of Education  
257 may make grants, in an amount not to exceed seventy-five thousand  
258 dollars, for start-up costs associated with the development of new  
259 interdistrict magnet school programs that assist the state in meeting  
260 the goals of the 2008 stipulation and order for Milo Sheff, et al. v.  
261 William A. O'Neill, et al., as extended, or the goals of the 2013  
262 stipulation and order for Milo Sheff, et al. v. William A. O'Neill, et al.,  
263 as determined by the commissioner, to the following entities that  
264 develop such a program: (A) Regional educational service centers, (B)  
265 local and regional boards of education, (C) the Board of Trustees of the  
266 Community-Technical Colleges on behalf of a regional community-  
267 technical college, (D) the Board of Trustees of the Connecticut State  
268 University System on behalf of a state university, (E) the Board of  
269 Trustees for The University of Connecticut on behalf of the university,  
270 (F) the board of governors for an independent college or university, as  
271 defined in section 10a-37, or the equivalent of such a board, on behalf  
272 of the independent college or university, (G) cooperative arrangements  
273 pursuant to section 10-158a, and (H) any other third-party not-for-  
274 profit corporation approved by the commissioner.

275 (d) (1) Grants made pursuant to this section, except those made  
276 pursuant to subdivision (6) of subsection (c) of this section and  
277 subdivision (2) of this subsection, shall be paid as follows: Seventy per  
278 cent [by] not later than September first and the balance [by] not later  
279 than May first of each fiscal year. The May first payment shall be  
280 adjusted to reflect actual interdistrict magnet school program  
281 enrollment as of the preceding October first using the data of record as  
282 of the intervening March first, if the actual level of enrollment is lower  
283 than the projected enrollment stated in the approved grant application.  
284 The May first payment shall be further adjusted for the difference  
285 between the total grant received by the magnet school operator in the

286 prior fiscal year and the revised total grant amount calculated for the  
287 prior fiscal year in cases where the aggregate financial audit submitted  
288 by the interdistrict magnet school operator pursuant to subdivision (1)  
289 of subsection (n) of this section indicates an overpayment by the  
290 department.

291 (2) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2015, and each fiscal year  
292 thereafter, the governing authority of Goodwin College shall receive  
293 an annual per pupil grant for the operation of the College Academy  
294 interdistrict magnet school as follows: (A) For each student enrolled in  
295 the summer term of the fiscal year, fifty per cent of the amount not  
296 later than August first and the balance (i) not later than September first  
297 of such fiscal year for each such student who enrolls in the second  
298 trimester term, or (ii) not later than May first of such fiscal year for  
299 each such student who enrolls in the third trimester term; (B) for each  
300 student enrolled in the second trimester term of the fiscal year who  
301 was not enrolled in the preceding summer term, fifty per cent not later  
302 than September first of such fiscal year and the balance not later than  
303 May first of such fiscal year for each such student who enrolls in the  
304 third trimester term. The May first payment shall be adjusted to reflect  
305 the actual enrollment of such interdistrict magnet school program as of  
306 the preceding summer and second trimester terms first using the data  
307 of record as of the intervening October first and March first, if the  
308 actual level of enrollment is lower than the projected enrollment stated  
309 in the approved grant application. The May first payment shall be  
310 further adjusted for the difference between the total grant received in  
311 the prior fiscal year and the revised grant amount calculated for the  
312 prior fiscal year in cases where the financial audit submitted by the  
313 governing authority of such interdistrict magnet school pursuant to  
314 subdivision (1) of subsection (n) of this section indicates an  
315 overpayment by the department.

316 (e) The Department of Education may retain up to one-half of one  
317 per cent of the amount appropriated, in an amount not to exceed five  
318 hundred thousand dollars, for purposes of this section for program  
319 evaluation and administration.

320 (f) Each local or regional school district in which an interdistrict  
321 magnet school is located shall provide the same kind of transportation  
322 to its children enrolled in such interdistrict magnet school as it  
323 provides to its children enrolled in other public schools in such local or  
324 regional school district. The parent or guardian of a child denied the  
325 transportation services required to be provided pursuant to this  
326 subsection may appeal such denial in the manner provided in sections  
327 10-186 and 10-187.

328 (g) On or before October fifteenth of each year, the Commissioner of  
329 Education shall determine if interdistrict magnet school enrollment is  
330 below the number of students for which funds were appropriated. If  
331 the commissioner determines that the enrollment is below such  
332 number, the additional funds shall not lapse but shall be used by the  
333 commissioner for grants for interdistrict cooperative programs  
334 pursuant to section 10-74d.

335 (h) In the case of a student identified as requiring special education,  
336 the school district in which the student resides shall: (1) Hold the  
337 planning and placement team meeting for such student and shall  
338 invite representatives from the interdistrict magnet school to  
339 participate in such meeting; and (2) pay the interdistrict magnet school  
340 an amount equal to the difference between the reasonable cost of  
341 educating such student and the sum of the amount received by the  
342 interdistrict magnet school for such student pursuant to subsection (c)  
343 of this section and amounts received from other state, federal, local or  
344 private sources calculated on a per pupil basis. Such school district  
345 shall be eligible for reimbursement pursuant to section 10-76g. If a  
346 student requiring special education attends an interdistrict magnet  
347 school on a full-time basis, such interdistrict magnet school shall be  
348 responsible for ensuring that such student receives the services  
349 mandated by the student's individualized education program whether  
350 such services are provided by the interdistrict magnet school or by the  
351 school district in which the student resides.

352 (i) Nothing in this section shall be construed to prohibit the

353 enrollment of nonpublic school students in an interdistrict magnet  
354 school program that operates less than full-time, provided (1) such  
355 students constitute no more than five per cent of the full-time  
356 equivalent enrollment in such magnet school program, and (2) such  
357 students are not counted for purposes of determining the amount of  
358 grants pursuant to this section and section 10-264i.

359 (j) After accommodating students from participating districts in  
360 accordance with an approved enrollment agreement, an interdistrict  
361 magnet school operator that has unused student capacity may enroll  
362 directly into its program any interested student. A student from a  
363 district that is not participating in an interdistrict magnet school or the  
364 interdistrict student attendance program pursuant to section 10-266aa  
365 to an extent determined by the Commissioner of Education shall be  
366 given preference. The local or regional board of education otherwise  
367 responsible for educating such student shall contribute funds to  
368 support the operation of the interdistrict magnet school in an amount  
369 equal to the per student tuition, if any, charged to participating  
370 districts.

371 (k) (1) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2014, and each fiscal year  
372 thereafter, any tuition charged to a local or regional board of education  
373 by a regional educational service center operating an interdistrict  
374 magnet school or any tuition charged by the Hartford school district  
375 operating the Great Path Academy on behalf of Manchester  
376 Community College for any student enrolled in kindergarten to grade  
377 twelve, inclusive, in such interdistrict magnet school shall be in an  
378 amount equal to the difference between (A) the average per pupil  
379 expenditure of the magnet school for the prior fiscal year, and (B) the  
380 amount of any per pupil state subsidy calculated under subsection (c)  
381 of this section plus any revenue from other sources calculated on a per  
382 pupil basis. If any such board of education fails to pay such tuition, the  
383 commissioner may withhold from such board's town or towns a sum  
384 payable under section 10-262i, as amended by this act, in an amount  
385 not to exceed the amount of the unpaid tuition to the magnet school  
386 and pay such money to the fiscal agent for the magnet school as a

387 supplementary grant for the operation of the interdistrict magnet  
388 school program. In no case shall the sum of such tuitions exceed the  
389 difference between (i) the total expenditures of the magnet school for  
390 the prior fiscal year, and (ii) the total per pupil state subsidy calculated  
391 under subsection (c) of this section plus any revenue from other  
392 sources. The commissioner may conduct a comprehensive financial  
393 review of the operating budget of a magnet school to verify such  
394 tuition rate.

395       (2) (A) For the fiscal years ending June 30, 2013, and June 30, 2014, a  
396 regional educational service center operating an interdistrict magnet  
397 school offering a preschool program that is not located in the Sheff  
398 region may charge tuition to the Department of Education for a child  
399 enrolled in such preschool program in an amount not to exceed an  
400 amount equal to the difference between (i) the average per pupil  
401 expenditure of the preschool program offered at the magnet school for  
402 the prior fiscal year, and (ii) the amount of any per pupil state subsidy  
403 calculated under subsection (c) of this section plus any revenue from  
404 other sources calculated on a per pupil basis. The commissioner may  
405 conduct a comprehensive financial review of the operating budget of  
406 any such magnet school charging such tuition to verify such tuition  
407 rate. For purposes of this subdivision, "Sheff region" means the school  
408 districts for the towns of Avon, Bloomfield, Canton, East Granby, East  
409 Hartford, East Windsor, Ellington, Farmington, Glastonbury, Granby,  
410 Hartford, Manchester, Newington, Rocky Hill, Simsbury, South  
411 Windsor, Suffield, Vernon, West Hartford, Wethersfield, Windsor and  
412 Windsor Locks.

413       (B) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2015, and each fiscal year  
414 thereafter, a regional educational service center operating an  
415 interdistrict magnet school offering a preschool program that is not  
416 located in the Sheff region may charge tuition to the parent or  
417 guardian of a child enrolled in such preschool program in an amount  
418 that is in accordance with the sliding tuition scale adopted by the State  
419 Board of Education pursuant to section 10-264p. The Department of  
420 Education shall be financially responsible for any unpaid portion of

421 the tuition not charged to such parent or guardian under such sliding  
422 tuition scale. Such tuition shall not exceed an amount equal to the  
423 difference between (i) the average per pupil expenditure of the  
424 preschool program offered at the magnet school for the prior fiscal  
425 year, and (ii) the amount of any per pupil state subsidy calculated  
426 under subsection (c) of this section plus any revenue from other  
427 sources calculated on a per pupil basis. The commissioner may  
428 conduct a comprehensive financial review of the operating budget of  
429 any such magnet school charging such tuition to verify such tuition  
430 rate.

431 (l) A participating district shall provide opportunities for its  
432 students to attend an interdistrict magnet school in a number that is at  
433 least equal to the number specified in any written agreement with an  
434 interdistrict magnet school operator or in a number that is at least  
435 equal to the average number of students that the participating district  
436 enrolled in such magnet school during the previous three school years.

437 (m) On or before May 15, 2010, and annually thereafter, each  
438 interdistrict magnet school operator shall provide written notification  
439 to any school district that is otherwise responsible for educating a  
440 student who resides in such school district and will be enrolled in an  
441 interdistrict magnet school under the operator's control for the  
442 following school year. Such notification shall include the number of  
443 any such students, by grade, who will be enrolled in an interdistrict  
444 magnet school under the control of such operator, the name of the  
445 school in which such student has been placed and the amount of  
446 tuition to be charged to the local or regional board of education for  
447 such student. Such notification shall represent an estimate of the  
448 number of students expected to attend such interdistrict magnet  
449 schools in the following school year, but shall not be deemed to limit  
450 the number of students who may enroll in such interdistrict magnet  
451 schools for such year.

452 (n) (1) Each interdistrict magnet school operator shall annually file  
453 with the Commissioner of Education, at such time and in such manner

454 as the commissioner prescribes, (A) a financial audit for each  
455 interdistrict magnet school operated by such operator, and (B) an  
456 aggregate financial audit for all of the interdistrict magnet schools  
457 operated by such operator.

458 (2) Annually, the commissioner shall randomly select one  
459 interdistrict magnet school operated by a regional educational service  
460 center to be subject to a comprehensive financial audit conducted by  
461 an auditor selected by the commissioner. The regional educational  
462 service center shall be responsible for all costs associated with the  
463 audit conducted pursuant to the provisions of this subdivision.

464 (o) For the school years commencing July 1, 2009, to July 1, 2014,  
465 inclusive, any local or regional board of education operating an  
466 interdistrict magnet school pursuant to the 2008 stipulation and order  
467 for Milo Sheff, et al. v. William O'Neill, et al., as extended, or the 2013  
468 stipulation and order for Milo Sheff, et al. v. William A. O'Neill, et al.,  
469 shall not charge tuition for any student enrolled in a preschool  
470 program or in kindergarten to grade twelve, inclusive, in an  
471 interdistrict magnet school operated by such school district, except the  
472 Hartford school district may charge tuition for any student enrolled in  
473 the Great Path Academy.

474 Sec. 2. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2014*) (a) For the fiscal year ending  
475 June 30, 2015, and each fiscal year thereafter, the Department of  
476 Education shall award, within available appropriations, a grant in an  
477 amount not to exceed two hundred fifty thousand dollars to the  
478 Hartford school district for program development and expansion of  
479 the Dr. Joseph S. Renzulli Gifted and Talented Academy to assist the  
480 state in meeting the goals of the 2013 stipulation for Milo Sheff, et al. v.  
481 William O'Neill, et al. Application for such grant funds awarded  
482 pursuant to this section shall be submitted annually to the  
483 Commissioner of Education at such time and in such manner as the  
484 commissioner prescribes.

485 (b) For the school year commencing July 1, 2014, and each school  
486 year thereafter, any student who is not a resident of the Hartford

487 school district may apply for enrollment in the Dr. Joseph S. Renzulli  
488 Gifted and Talented Academy, provided such student is eligible for  
489 enrollment under the school's admissions policies. Any such student  
490 enrolled in the Dr. Joseph S. Renzulli Gifted and Talented Academy  
491 shall be so enrolled as a participant in the interdistrict public school  
492 attendance program pursuant to section 10-266aa of the general  
493 statutes.

494 (c) Grants awarded under this section shall supplement other grant  
495 awards to which the Dr. Joseph S. Renzulli Gifted and Talented  
496 Academy is entitled and shall not reduce such academy's eligibility for  
497 any other grant that such academy may be entitled to receive.

498 Sec. 3. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2014*) (a) For purposes of this section,  
499 "Sheff Lighthouse School" has the same meaning as "Lighthouse  
500 Schools", as defined in the 2013 stipulation and order for Milo Sheff, et  
501 al. v. William A. O'Neill, et al.

502 (b) For the fiscal years ending June 30, 2015, to June 30, 2018,  
503 inclusive, the Department of Education shall award, within available  
504 appropriations, an annual grant, in an amount of seven hundred fifty  
505 thousand dollars, to the Hartford school district to assist in the  
506 development of curricula and the training of staff for the conversion of  
507 a neighborhood school to a Sheff Lighthouse School.

508 (c) Any school identified for conversion to a Sheff Lighthouse  
509 School shall be so identified through a collaborative process that has  
510 been approved by the Hartford board of education and the  
511 Commissioner of Education.

512 (d) For the school year commencing July 1, 2014, and each school  
513 year thereafter, any student who is not a resident of the Hartford  
514 school district may apply for enrollment in a Sheff Lighthouse School.  
515 Any such student enrolled in a Sheff Lighthouse School shall be so  
516 enrolled as a participant in the interdistrict public school attendance  
517 program pursuant to section 10-266aa of the general statutes.



518 Sec. 4. Subsection (a) of section 10-264i of the 2014 supplement to the  
519 general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu  
520 thereof (*Effective July 1, 2014*):

521 (a) (1) (A) A local or regional board of education, (B) a regional  
522 educational service center, (C) the Board of Trustees of the  
523 Community-Technical Colleges on behalf of Quinebaug Valley  
524 Community College and Three Rivers Community College, (D) a  
525 cooperative arrangement pursuant to section 10-158a, or (E) to assist  
526 the state in meeting the goals of the 2008 stipulation and order for Milo  
527 Sheff, et al. v. William A. O'Neill, et al., as extended, or the goals of the  
528 2013 stipulation and order for Milo Sheff, et al. v. William A. O'Neill, et  
529 al., as determined by the Commissioner of Education, (i) the Board of  
530 Trustees of the Community-Technical Colleges on behalf of a regional  
531 community-technical college, (ii) the Board of Trustees of the  
532 Connecticut State University System on behalf of a state university, (iii)  
533 the Board of Trustees for The University of Connecticut on behalf of  
534 the university, (iv) the board of governors for an independent college  
535 or university, as defined in section 10a-37, or the equivalent of such a  
536 board, on behalf of the independent college or university, and (v) any  
537 other third-party not-for-profit corporation approved by the  
538 commissioner which transports a child to an interdistrict magnet  
539 school program, as defined in section 10-264l, as amended by this act,  
540 in a town other than the town in which the child resides shall be  
541 eligible pursuant to section 10-264e to receive a grant for the cost of  
542 transporting such child in accordance with this section.

543 (2) Except as provided in subdivisions (3) and (4) of this subsection,  
544 the amount of such grant shall not exceed an amount equal to the  
545 number of such children transported multiplied by one thousand three  
546 hundred dollars.

547 (3) For districts assisting the state in meeting the goals of the 2008  
548 stipulation and order for Milo Sheff, et al. v. William A. O'Neill, et al.,  
549 as extended, or the goals of the 2013 stipulation and order for Milo  
550 Sheff, et al. v. William A. O'Neill, et al., as determined by the

551 commissioner, (i) for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2010, the amount  
552 of such grant shall not exceed an amount equal to the number of such  
553 children transported multiplied by one thousand four hundred dollars,  
554 and (ii) for the fiscal years ending June 30, 2011, to June 30, 2015,  
555 inclusive, the amount of such grant shall not exceed an amount equal  
556 to the number of such children transported multiplied by two  
557 thousand dollars.

558 (4) In addition to the grants otherwise provided pursuant to this  
559 section, the Commissioner of Education may provide supplemental  
560 transportation grants to regional educational service centers for the  
561 purposes of transportation to interdistrict magnet schools. Any such  
562 grant shall be provided within available appropriations and after the  
563 commissioner has reviewed and approved the total interdistrict  
564 magnet school transportation budget for a regional educational service  
565 center, including all revenue and expenditure estimates. For the fiscal  
566 year ending June 30, 2010, in addition to the grants otherwise provided  
567 pursuant to this section, the Commissioner of Education, with the  
568 approval of the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management, may  
569 provide supplemental transportation grants to the Hartford school  
570 district and the Capitol Region Education Council for the purposes of  
571 transportation of students who are not residents of Hartford to  
572 interdistrict magnet schools operated by the Capitol Region Education  
573 Council or the Hartford school district. For the fiscal year ending June  
574 30, 2012, in addition to the grants otherwise provided pursuant to this  
575 section, the Commissioner of Education may provide supplemental  
576 transportation grants to regional educational service centers for the  
577 purposes of transportation to interdistrict magnet schools that assist  
578 the state in meeting the goals of the 2008 stipulation and order for Milo  
579 Sheff, et al. v. William A. O'Neill, et al. Any such grant shall be  
580 provided within available appropriations and upon a comprehensive  
581 financial review of all transportation activities as prescribed by the  
582 commissioner. The commissioner may require the regional educational  
583 service center to provide an independent financial review, by an  
584 auditor selected by the Commissioner of Education, the costs of which  
585 may be paid from funds that are part of the supplemental

586 transportation grant. Any such grant shall be paid as follows: Up to  
587 fifty per cent of the grant on or before June 30, 2012, and the balance on  
588 or before September 1, 2012, upon completion of the comprehensive  
589 financial review. For the fiscal [year] years ending June 30, 2013, to  
590 June 30, 2015, inclusive, in addition to the grants otherwise provided  
591 pursuant to this section, the Commissioner of Education may provide  
592 supplemental transportation to interdistrict magnet schools that assist  
593 the state in meeting the goals of the 2008 stipulation and order for Milo  
594 Sheff, et al. v. William O'Neill, et al., as extended, or the goals of the  
595 2013 stipulation and order for Milo Sheff, et al. v. William A. O'Neill, et  
596 al. and for transportation provided by EASTCONN to interdistrict  
597 magnet schools. Any such grant shall be provided within available  
598 appropriations and upon a comprehensive financial review, by an  
599 auditor selected by the Commissioner of Education, the costs of such  
600 review may be paid from funds that are part of the supplemental  
601 transportation grant. Any such grant shall be paid as follows: [Up] For  
602 the fiscal year ending June 30, 2013, up to fifty per cent of the grant on  
603 or before June 30, 2013, and the balance on or before September 1, 2013,  
604 upon completion of the comprehensive financial review; for the fiscal  
605 year ending June 30, 2014, up to fifty per cent of the grant on or before  
606 June 30, 2014, and the balance on or before September 1, 2014, upon  
607 completion of the comprehensive financial review; and for the fiscal  
608 year ending June 30, 2015, up to fifty per cent of the grant on or before  
609 June 30, 2015, and the balance on or before September 1, 2015, upon  
610 completion of the comprehensive financial review.

611 (5) The Department of Education shall provide such grants within  
612 available appropriations. Nothing in this subsection shall be construed  
613 to prevent a local or regional board of education, regional educational  
614 service center or cooperative arrangement from receiving  
615 reimbursement under section 10-266m, as amended by this act, for  
616 reasonable transportation expenses for which such board, service  
617 center or cooperative arrangement is not reimbursed pursuant to this  
618 section.

619 Sec. 5. Subsection (a) of section 10-264h of the 2014 supplement to

620 the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu  
621 thereof (*Effective July 1, 2014*):

622 (a) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2012, and each fiscal year  
623 thereafter, a local or regional board of education, a regional  
624 educational service center, a cooperative arrangement pursuant to  
625 section 10-158a, or any of the following entities that operate an  
626 interdistrict magnet school that assists the state in meeting the goals of  
627 the 2008 stipulation and order for Milo Sheff, et al. v. William A.  
628 O'Neill, et al., as extended, or the goals of the 2013 stipulation and  
629 order for Milo Sheff, et al. v. William A. O'Neill, et al., as determined  
630 by the Commissioner of Education: (1) The Board of Trustees of the  
631 Community-Technical Colleges on behalf of a regional community-  
632 technical college, (2) the Board of Trustees of the Connecticut State  
633 University System on behalf of a state university, (3) the Board of  
634 Trustees for The University of Connecticut on behalf of the university,  
635 (4) the board of governors for an independent college or university, as  
636 defined in section 10a-37, or the equivalent of such a board, on behalf  
637 of the independent college or university, and (5) any other third-party  
638 not-for-profit corporation approved by the Commissioner of  
639 Education, may be eligible for reimbursement, except as otherwise  
640 provided for, up to eighty per cent of the eligible cost of any capital  
641 expenditure for the purchase, construction, extension, replacement,  
642 leasing or major alteration of interdistrict magnet school facilities,  
643 including any expenditure for the purchase of equipment, in  
644 accordance with this section. To be eligible for reimbursement under  
645 this section a magnet school construction project shall meet the  
646 requirements for a school building project established in chapter 173,  
647 except that the Commissioner of Administrative Services, in  
648 consultation with the Commissioner of Education, may waive any  
649 requirement in said chapter for good cause. On and after July 1, 2011,  
650 the Commissioner of Administrative Services shall approve only  
651 applications for reimbursement under this section that the  
652 Commissioner of Education finds will reduce racial, ethnic and  
653 economic isolation. Applications for reimbursement under this section  
654 for the construction of new interdistrict magnet schools shall not be

accepted until the Commissioner of Education develops a comprehensive state-wide interdistrict magnet school plan, in accordance with the provisions of subdivision (1) of subsection (b) of section 10-264l, unless the Commissioner of Education determines that such construction will assist the state in meeting the goals of the 2008 stipulation and order for Milo Sheff, et al. v. William A. O'Neill, et al., as extended, or the goals of the 2013 stipulation and order for Milo Sheff, et al. v. William A. O'Neill, et al.

Sec. 6. Section 10-264o of the 2014 supplement to the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2014*):

(a) Notwithstanding any provision of this chapter, interdistrict magnet schools that begin operations on or after July 1, 2008, pursuant to the 2008 stipulation and order for Milo Sheff, et al. v. William A. O'Neill, et al., as extended, or the 2013 stipulation and order for Milo Sheff, et al. v. William A. O'Neill, et al., as determined by the Commissioner of Education, may operate without district participation agreements and enroll students from any district through a lottery designated by the commissioner.

(b) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2013, and each fiscal year thereafter, any tuition charged to a local or regional board of education by a regional educational service center operating an interdistrict magnet school [that began operations on or after July 1, 2008, pursuant to] assisting the state in meeting the goals of the 2008 stipulation and order for Milo Sheff, et al. v. William A. O'Neill, et al., as extended, or the goals of the 2013 stipulation and order for Milo Sheff, et al. v. William A. O'Neill, et al., as determined by the Commissioner of Education, for any student enrolled in kindergarten to grade twelve, inclusive, in such interdistrict magnet school shall be in an amount equal to the difference between (1) the average per pupil expenditure of the magnet school for the prior fiscal year, and (2) the amount of any per pupil state subsidy calculated under subsection (c) of section 10-264l plus any revenue from other sources calculated on a per pupil

688 basis. If any such board of education fails to pay such tuition, the  
689 commissioner may withhold from such board's town or towns a sum  
690 payable under section 10-262i, as amended by this act, in an amount  
691 not to exceed the amount of the unpaid tuition to the magnet school  
692 and pay such money to the fiscal agent for the magnet school as a  
693 supplementary grant for the operation of the interdistrict magnet  
694 school program. In no case shall the sum of such tuitions exceed the  
695 difference between (A) the total expenditures of the magnet school for  
696 the prior fiscal year, and (B) the total per pupil state subsidy calculated  
697 under subsection (c) of section 10-264l plus any revenue from other  
698 sources. The commissioner may conduct a comprehensive review of  
699 the operating budget of a magnet school to verify such tuition rate.

700 (c) (1) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2013, a regional educational  
701 service center operating an interdistrict magnet school [that began  
702 operations on or after July 1, 2008, pursuant to] assisting the state in  
703 meeting the goals of the 2008 stipulation and order for Milo Sheff, et al.  
704 v. William A. O'Neill, et al., as extended, or the goals of the 2013  
705 stipulation and order for Milo Sheff, et al. v. William A. O'Neill, et al.,  
706 as determined by the Commissioner of Education, and offering a  
707 preschool program shall not charge tuition for a child enrolled in such  
708 preschool program.

709 (2) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2014, a regional educational  
710 service center operating an interdistrict magnet school [that began  
711 operations on or after July 1, 2008, pursuant to] assisting the state in  
712 meeting the goals of the 2008 stipulation and order for Milo Sheff, et al.  
713 v. William A. O'Neill, et al., as extended, or the goals of the 2013  
714 stipulation and order for Milo Sheff, et al. v. William A. O'Neill, et al.,  
715 as determined by the Commissioner of Education, and offering a  
716 preschool program may charge tuition to the Department of Education  
717 for a child enrolled in such preschool program in an amount not to  
718 exceed an amount equal to the difference between (A) the average per  
719 pupil expenditure of the preschool program offered at the magnet  
720 school for the prior fiscal year, and (B) the amount of any per pupil  
721 state subsidy calculated under subsection (c) of section 10-264l plus

722 any revenue from other sources calculated on a per pupil basis. The  
723 commissioner may conduct a comprehensive review of the operating  
724 budget of any such magnet school charging such tuition to verify such  
725 tuition rate.

726 (3) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2015, and each fiscal year  
727 thereafter, a regional educational service center operating an  
728 interdistrict magnet school [that began operations on or after July 1,  
729 2008, pursuant to] assisting the state in meeting the goals of the 2008  
730 stipulation and order for Milo Sheff, et al. v. William A. O'Neill, et al.,  
731 as extended, or the goals of the 2013 stipulation and order for Milo  
732 Sheff, et al. v. William A. O'Neill, et al., as determined by the  
733 Commissioner of Education, and offering a preschool program may  
734 charge tuition to the parent or guardian of a child enrolled in such  
735 preschool program in an amount that is in accordance with the sliding  
736 tuition scale adopted by the State Board of Education pursuant to  
737 section 10-264p. The Department of Education shall be financially  
738 responsible for any unpaid portion of the tuition not charged to such  
739 parent or guardian under such sliding tuition scale. Such tuition shall  
740 not exceed an amount equal to the difference between (A) the average  
741 per pupil expenditure of the preschool program offered at the magnet  
742 school for the prior fiscal year, and (B) the amount of any per pupil  
743 state subsidy calculated under subsection (c) of section 10-264l plus  
744 any revenue from other sources calculated on a per pupil basis. The  
745 commissioner may conduct a comprehensive review of the operating  
746 budget of any such magnet school charging such tuition to verify such  
747 tuition rate.

748 Sec. 7. Subsection (l) of section 10-66ee of the 2014 supplement to the  
749 general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu  
750 thereof (*Effective July 1, 2014*):

751 (l) Within available appropriations, the state may provide a grant in  
752 an amount not to exceed seventy-five thousand dollars to any newly  
753 approved state charter school that assists the state in meeting the goals  
754 of the 2008 stipulation and order for Milo Sheff, et al. v. William A.

755 O'Neill, et al., as extended, or the goals of the 2013 stipulation and  
756 order for Milo Sheff, et al. v. William A. O'Neill, et al., as determined  
757 by the Commissioner of Education, for start-up costs associated with  
758 the new charter school program.

759 Sec. 8. Section 10-262s of the general statutes is repealed and the  
760 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2014*):

761 The Commissioner of Education may, to assist the state in meeting  
762 the goals of the 2008 stipulation and order for Milo Sheff, et al. v.  
763 William A. O'Neill, et al., as extended, or the goals of the 2013  
764 stipulation and order for Milo Sheff, et al. v. William A. O'Neill, et al.,  
765 transfer funds appropriated for the Sheff settlement to the following:  
766 (1) Grants for interdistrict cooperative programs pursuant to section  
767 10-74d, (2) grants for state charter schools pursuant to section 10-66ee,  
768 (3) grants for the interdistrict public school attendance program  
769 pursuant to section 10-266aa, (4) grants for interdistrict magnet schools  
770 pursuant to section 10-264l, and (5) to technical high schools for  
771 programming.

772 Sec. 9. Subdivision (5) of subsection (a) of section 10-266m of the  
773 general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu  
774 thereof (*Effective July 1, 2014*):

775 (5) Notwithstanding the provisions of this section, the  
776 Commissioner of Education may provide grants, within available  
777 appropriations, in an amount not to exceed two thousand dollars per  
778 pupil, to local and regional boards of education and regional  
779 educational service centers that transport (A) out-of-district students to  
780 technical high schools located in Hartford, or (B) Hartford students  
781 attending a technical high school or a regional agricultural science and  
782 technology education center outside of the district, to assist the state in  
783 meeting the goals of the 2008 stipulation and order for Milo Sheff, et al.  
784 v. William A. O'Neill, et al., as extended, or the goals of the 2013  
785 stipulation and order for Milo Sheff, et al. v. William A. O'Neill, et al.,  
786 as determined by the commissioner, for the costs associated with such  
787 transportation.



788 Sec. 10. Subsection (o) of section 10-266aa of the 2014 supplement to  
789 the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu  
790 thereof (*Effective July 1, 2014*):

791 (o) Within available appropriations, the commissioner may make  
792 grants for academic student support for programs pursuant to this  
793 section that assist the state in meeting the goals of the 2008 stipulation  
794 and order for Milo Sheff, et al. v. William A. O'Neill, et al., as extended,  
795 or the goals of the 2013 stipulation and order for Milo Sheff, et al. v.  
796 William A. O'Neill, et al., as determined by the commissioner.

797 Sec. 11. Section 10-283 of the 2014 supplement to the general statutes  
798 is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*  
799 *1, 2014*):

800 (a) (1) Each town or regional school district shall be eligible to apply  
801 for and accept grants for a school building project as provided in this  
802 chapter. Any town desiring a grant for a public school building project  
803 may, by vote of its legislative body, authorize the board of education of  
804 such town to apply to the Commissioner of Education and to accept or  
805 reject such grant for the town. Any regional school board may vote to  
806 authorize the supervising agent of the regional school district to apply  
807 to the Commissioner of Education for and to accept or reject such grant  
808 for the district. Applications for such grants under this chapter shall be  
809 made by the superintendent of schools of such town or regional school  
810 district on the form provided and in the manner prescribed by the  
811 Commissioner of Administrative Services. The application form shall  
812 require the superintendent of schools to affirm that the school district  
813 considered the maximization of natural light, the use and feasibility of  
814 wireless connectivity technology and, on and after July 1, 2014, the  
815 school safety infrastructure standards, developed by the School Safety  
816 Infrastructure Council, pursuant to section 10-292r, in projects for new  
817 construction and alteration or renovation of a school building. The  
818 Commissioner of Education shall review each grant application for a  
819 school building project for compliance with educational requirements  
820 and on the basis of categories for building projects established by the

821 State Board of Education in accordance with this section, and shall  
822 evaluate, if appropriate, whether the project will assist the state in  
823 meeting the goals of the 2008 stipulation and order for Milo Sheff, et al.  
824 v. William A. O'Neill, et al., as extended, or the goals of the 2013  
825 stipulation and order for Milo Sheff, et al. v. William A. O'Neill, et al.,  
826 provided grant applications submitted for purposes of subsection (a)  
827 of section 10-65 or section 10-76e shall be reviewed annually by the  
828 commissioner on the basis of the educational needs of the applicant.  
829 The Commissioner of Education shall forward each application and  
830 the category that the Commissioner of Education has assigned to each  
831 such project in accordance with subdivision (2) of this subsection to the  
832 Commissioner of Administrative Services not later than August thirty-  
833 first of each fiscal year. The Commissioner of Administrative Services  
834 shall review each grant application for a school building project for  
835 compliance with standards for school building projects pursuant to  
836 regulations, adopted in accordance with section 10-287c, and, on and  
837 after July 1, 2014, the school safety infrastructure standards, developed  
838 by the School Safety Infrastructure Council pursuant to section 10-292r.  
839 Notwithstanding the provisions of this chapter, the Board of Trustees  
840 of the Community-Technical Colleges on behalf of Quinebaug Valley  
841 Community College and Three Rivers Community College and the  
842 following entities that will operate an interdistrict magnet school that  
843 will assist the state in meeting the goals of the 2008 stipulation and  
844 order for Milo Sheff, et al. v. William A. O'Neill, et al., as extended, or  
845 the goals of the 2013 stipulation and order for Milo Sheff, et al. v.  
846 William A. O'Neill, et al., as determined by the Commissioner of  
847 Education, may apply for and shall be eligible to receive grants for  
848 school building projects pursuant to section 10-264h for such a school:  
849 (A) The Board of Trustees of the Community-Technical Colleges on  
850 behalf of a regional community-technical college, (B) the Board of  
851 Trustees of the Connecticut State University System on behalf of a state  
852 university, (C) the Board of Trustees for The University of Connecticut  
853 on behalf of the university, (D) the board of governors for an  
854 independent college or university, as defined in section 10a-37, or the  
855 equivalent of such a board, on behalf of the independent college or

856 university, (E) cooperative arrangements pursuant to section 10-158a,  
857 and (F) any other third-party not-for-profit corporation approved by  
858 the Commissioner of Education.

859 (2) The Commissioner of Education shall assign each school  
860 building project to a category on the basis of whether such project is  
861 primarily required to: (A) Create new facilities or alter existing  
862 facilities to provide for mandatory instructional programs pursuant to  
863 this chapter, for physical education facilities in compliance with Title  
864 IX of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1972 where such  
865 programs or such compliance cannot be provided within existing  
866 facilities or for the correction of code violations which cannot be  
867 reasonably addressed within existing program space; (B) create new  
868 facilities or alter existing facilities to enhance mandatory instructional  
869 programs pursuant to this chapter or provide comparable facilities  
870 among schools to all students at the same grade level or levels within  
871 the school district unless such project is otherwise explicitly included  
872 in another category pursuant to this section; and (C) create new  
873 facilities or alter existing facilities to provide supportive services,  
874 provided in no event shall such supportive services include swimming  
875 pools, auditoriums, outdoor athletic facilities, tennis courts,  
876 elementary school playgrounds, site improvement or garages or  
877 storage, parking or general recreation areas. All applications submitted  
878 prior to July first shall be reviewed promptly by the Commissioner of  
879 Education, who shall forward such application to the Commissioner of  
880 Administrative Services. The Commissioner of Administrative Services  
881 shall estimate the amount of the grant for which such project is  
882 eligible, in accordance with the provisions of section 10-285a, provided  
883 an application for a school building project determined by the  
884 Commissioner of Education to be a project that will assist the state in  
885 meeting the goals of the 2008 stipulation and order for Milo Sheff, et al.  
886 v. William A. O'Neill, et al., as extended, or the goals of the 2013  
887 stipulation and order for Milo Sheff, et al. v. William A. O'Neill, et al.,  
888 shall have until September first to submit an application for such a  
889 project and may have until December first of the same year to secure  
890 and report all local and state approvals required to complete the grant

891 application. The Commissioner of Administrative Services shall  
892 annually prepare a listing of all such eligible school building projects  
893 listed by category together with the amount of the estimated grants for  
894 such projects and shall submit the same to the Governor, the Secretary  
895 of the Office of Policy and Management and the General Assembly on  
896 or before the fifteenth day of December, except as provided in section  
897 10-283a, with a request for authorization to enter into grant  
898 commitments. On or before December thirty-first annually, the  
899 Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management shall submit  
900 comments and recommendations regarding each eligible project on  
901 such listing of eligible school building projects to the school  
902 construction committee, established pursuant to section 10-283a. Each  
903 such listing submitted after December 15, 2005, until December 15,  
904 2010, inclusive, shall include a separate schedule of authorized projects  
905 which have changed in scope or cost to a degree determined by the  
906 Commissioner of Education once, and a separate schedule of  
907 authorized projects which have changed in scope or cost to a degree  
908 determined by said commissioner twice. Any such listing submitted  
909 after December 15, 2010, until December 15, 2011, inclusive, shall  
910 include a separate schedule of authorized projects which have changed  
911 in scope or cost to a degree determined by the Commissioner of  
912 Administrative Services once, and a separate schedule of authorized  
913 projects which have changed in scope or cost to a degree determined  
914 by said commissioner twice. On and after July 1, 2011, each such listing  
915 shall include a report on the review conducted by the Commissioner of  
916 Education of the enrollment projections for each such eligible project.  
917 For the period beginning July 1, 2006, and ending June 30, 2012, no  
918 project, other than a project for a technical high school, may appear on  
919 the separate schedule of authorized projects which have changed in  
920 cost more than twice. On and after July 1, 2012, no project, other than a  
921 project for a technical high school, may appear on the separate  
922 schedule of authorized projects which have changed in cost more than  
923 once, except the Commissioner of Administrative Services may allow a  
924 project to appear on such separate schedule of authorized projects a  
925 second time if the town or regional school district for such project can

926 demonstrate that exigent circumstances require such project to appear  
927 a second time on such separate schedule of authorized projects.  
928 Notwithstanding any provision of this chapter, no projects which have  
929 changed in scope or cost to the degree determined by the  
930 Commissioner of Administrative Services, in consultation with the  
931 Commissioner of Education, shall be eligible for reimbursement under  
932 this chapter unless it appears on such list. The percentage determined  
933 pursuant to section 10-285a at the time a school building project on  
934 such schedule was originally authorized shall be used for purposes of  
935 the grant for such project. On and after July 1, 2006, a project that was  
936 not previously authorized as an interdistrict magnet school shall not  
937 receive a higher percentage for reimbursement than that determined  
938 pursuant to section 10-285a at the time a school building project on  
939 such schedule was originally authorized. The General Assembly shall  
940 annually authorize the Commissioner of Administrative Services to  
941 enter into grant commitments on behalf of the state in accordance with  
942 the commissioner's categorized listing for such projects as the General  
943 Assembly shall determine. The Commissioner of Administrative  
944 Services may not enter into any such grant commitments except  
945 pursuant to such legislative authorization. Any regional school district  
946 which assumes the responsibility for completion of a public school  
947 building project shall be eligible for a grant pursuant to subdivision (5)  
948 or (6), as the case may be, of subsection (a) of section 10-286 when such  
949 project is completed and accepted by such regional school district.

950 (3) (A) All final calculations completed by the Department of  
951 Administrative Services for school building projects shall include a  
952 computation of the state grant for the school building project  
953 amortized on a straight line basis over a twenty-year period for school  
954 building projects with costs equal to or greater than two million dollars  
955 and over a ten-year period for school building projects with costs less  
956 than two million dollars. Any town or regional school district which  
957 abandons, sells, leases, demolishes or otherwise redirects the use of  
958 such a school building project to other than a public school use during  
959 such amortization period shall refund to the state the unamortized  
960 balance of the state grant remaining as of the date the abandonment,

961 sale, lease, demolition or redirection occurs. The amortization period  
962 for a project shall begin on the date the project was accepted as  
963 complete by the local or regional board of education. A town or  
964 regional school district required to make a refund to the state pursuant  
965 to this subdivision may request forgiveness of such refund if the  
966 building is redirected for public use. The Department of  
967 Administrative Services shall include as an addendum to the annual  
968 school construction priority list all those towns requesting forgiveness.  
969 General Assembly approval of the priority list containing such request  
970 shall constitute approval of such request. This subdivision shall not  
971 apply to projects to correct safety, health and other code violations or  
972 to remedy certified school indoor air quality emergencies approved  
973 pursuant to subsection (b) of this section or projects subject to the  
974 provisions of section 10-285c.

975 (B) Any moneys refunded to the state pursuant to subparagraph (A)  
976 of this subdivision shall be deposited in the state's tax-exempt  
977 proceeds fund and used not later than sixty days after repayment to  
978 pay debt service on, including redemption, defeasance or purchase of,  
979 outstanding bonds of the state the interest on which is not included in  
980 gross income pursuant to Section 103 of the Internal Revenue Code of  
981 1986, or any subsequent corresponding internal revenue code of the  
982 United States, as from time to time amended.

983 (b) Notwithstanding the application date requirements of this  
984 section, the Commissioner of Administrative Services, in consultation  
985 with the Commissioner of Education, may approve applications for  
986 grants to assist school building projects to remedy damage from fire  
987 and catastrophe, to correct safety, health and other code violations, to  
988 replace roofs, to remedy a certified school indoor air quality  
989 emergency, or to purchase and install portable classroom buildings at  
990 any time within the limit of available grant authorization and make  
991 payments thereon within the limit of appropriated funds, provided  
992 portable classroom building projects shall not create a new facility or  
993 cause an existing facility to be modified so that the portable buildings  
994 comprise a substantial percentage of the total facility area, as

995 determined by the commissioner.

996 (c) No school building project shall be added to the list prepared by  
997 the Commissioner of Administrative Services pursuant to subsection  
998 (a) of this section after such list is submitted to the committee of the  
999 General Assembly appointed pursuant to section 10-283a unless (1) the  
1000 project is for a school placed on probation by the New England  
1001 Association of Schools and Colleges and the project is necessary to  
1002 preserve accreditation, (2) the project is necessary to replace a school  
1003 building for which a state agency issued a written notice of its intent to  
1004 take the school property for public purpose, (3) it is a school building  
1005 project determined by the Commissioner of Education to be a project  
1006 that will assist the state in meeting the goals of the 2008 stipulation and  
1007 order for Milo Sheff, et al. v. William A. O'Neill, et al., as extended, or  
1008 the goals of the 2013 stipulation and order for Milo Sheff, et al. v.  
1009 William A. O'Neill, et al. The provisions of this subsection shall not  
1010 apply to projects previously authorized by the General Assembly that  
1011 require special legislation to correct procedural deficiencies.

1012 (d) No application for a school building project shall be accepted by  
1013 the Commissioner of Education on or after July 1, 2002, unless the  
1014 applicant has secured funding authorization for the local share of the  
1015 project costs prior to application. The reimbursement percentage for a  
1016 project covered by this subsection shall reflect the rates in effect during  
1017 the fiscal year in which such local funding authorization is secured.

1018 Sec. 12. Subsection (h) of section 13 of public act 13-239 is amended  
1019 to read as follows (*Effective July 1, 2014*):

1020 (h) For the Department of Education:

1021 (1) Grants-in-aid for capital start-up costs related to the  
1022 development of new interdistrict magnet school programs to assist the  
1023 state in meeting the goals of the 2008 stipulation and order for Milo  
1024 Sheff, et al. v. William A. O'Neill, et al., as extended, or the goals of the  
1025 2013 stipulation and order for Milo Sheff, et. al. v. William A. O'Neill,  
1026 et al., for the purpose of purchasing a building or portable classrooms,

1027 subject to the reversion provisions in subdivision (1) of subsection (c)  
1028 of section 10-264h of the general statutes, leasing space, and  
1029 purchasing equipment, including, but not limited to, computers and  
1030 classroom furniture, not exceeding \$17,000,000;

1031 (2) Grants-in-aid to municipalities and organizations exempt from  
1032 taxation under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986,  
1033 or any subsequent corresponding internal revenue code of the United  
1034 States, as amended from time to time, for facility improvements and  
1035 minor capital repairs to that portion of facilities that house school  
1036 readiness programs and state-funded day care centers operated by  
1037 such municipalities and organizations, not exceeding \$11,500,000;

1038 (3) Grants-in-aid to local or regional boards of education for capital  
1039 costs related to the expansion of enrollment in the state-wide  
1040 interdistrict public school attendance program pursuant to section 10-  
1041 266aa of the general statutes, to assist the state in meeting the goals of  
1042 the 2008 stipulation and order for Milo Sheff, et al. v. William A.  
1043 O'Neill, et al., as extended, or the goals of the 2013 stipulation and  
1044 order for Milo Sheff, et al. v. William A. O'Neill, et. al., for building  
1045 renovations, classroom expansions and the purchase of equipment,  
1046 including, but not limited to, computers, laboratory equipment and  
1047 classroom furniture, not exceeding \$750,000.

1048 Sec. 13. (*Effective from passage*) Notwithstanding the provisions of  
1049 subdivision (1) of section 1 of public act 13-243 and section 10-264h of  
1050 the general statutes or any regulation adopted by the State Board of  
1051 Education or the Departments of Construction Services or  
1052 Administrative Services concerning the reimbursement rate for the  
1053 construction of interdistrict magnet schools, the Capitol Region  
1054 Education Council may use ninety-five per cent as the reimbursement  
1055 rate for the new interdistrict magnet facility construction and purchase  
1056 of site project (Project Number 241-0102 MAG/N/PS) at the Greater  
1057 Hartford Academy of the Arts Elementary Magnet School.

1058 Sec. 14. (*Effective from passage*) Notwithstanding the provisions of  
1059 subdivision (1) of section 1 of public act 13-243 and section 10-264h of



1060 the general statutes or any regulation adopted by the State Board of  
1061 Education or the Departments of Construction Services or  
1062 Administrative Services concerning the reimbursement rate for the  
1063 construction of interdistrict magnet schools, the Capitol Region  
1064 Education Council may use ninety-five per cent as the reimbursement  
1065 rate for the new interdistrict magnet facility construction and purchase  
1066 of site project (Project Number 241-0103 MAG/N/PS) at the Greater  
1067 Hartford Academy of the Arts Middle Magnet School.

1068       Sec. 15. (*Effective from passage*) Notwithstanding the provisions of  
1069 subdivision (1) of section 1 of public act 13-243 and section 10-264h of  
1070 the general statutes or any regulation adopted by the State Board of  
1071 Education or the Departments of Construction Services or  
1072 Administrative Services concerning the reimbursement rate for the  
1073 construction of interdistrict magnet schools, the Capitol Region  
1074 Education Council may use ninety-five per cent as the reimbursement  
1075 rate for the new interdistrict magnet facility construction and purchase  
1076 of site project (Project Number 241-0104 MAG/N/PS) at the Two  
1077 Rivers Magnet High School.

1078       Sec. 16. Section 96 of public act 11-57 is amended to read as follows  
1079 (*Effective July 1, 2014*):

1080       Notwithstanding the provisions of section 10-287i of the general  
1081 statutes or any regulation adopted by the State Board of Education  
1082 requiring payment of the state share of eligible project costs and filing  
1083 notice of authorization of funding for the local share of project costs,  
1084 the Commissioner of Education may pay both the state share of  
1085 eligible project costs and the local share of eligible project costs to the  
1086 Capitol Region Education Council for the following interdistrict  
1087 magnet school building projects: (1) Reggio Magnet School of the Arts  
1088 (Project Number 241-0095 MAG/N), (2) International Magnet School  
1089 for Global Citizenship (Project Number 241-0098 MAG/N), (3) Public  
1090 Safety Academy (Project Number 241-0097 MAG/N), (4) Medical  
1091 Professions and Teacher Preparation Academy (Project Number 241-  
1092 0096 MAG/N), (5) Academy of Aerospace (Project Number 241-0099

1093 MAG/N), (6) Discovery Academy (Project Number 241-0100  
1094 MAG/N), [and] (7) Museum Academy (Project Number 241-0101  
1095 MAG/N), (8) Greater Hartford Academy of the Arts Elementary  
1096 Magnet School, (Project Number 241-0102 MAG/N/PS), (9) Greater  
1097 Hartford Academy of the Arts Middle School (Project Number 241-  
1098 0103 MAG/N/PS), and (10) Two Rivers Magnet High School (Project  
1099 Number 241-0104 MAG/N/PS), provided the project is in compliance  
1100 with the provisions of chapter 173 of the general statutes and any  
1101 regulation adopted by the State Board of Education. Upon completion  
1102 of each project audit conducted pursuant to section 10-287 of the  
1103 general statutes, the Department of Construction Services shall (A)  
1104 compute the local share of the project cost in accordance with the  
1105 provisions of chapter 173 of the general statutes, (B) determine a  
1106 repayment schedule of the local share based on twenty equal annual  
1107 principal payments, (C) apply a fixed rate of interest, as determined by  
1108 the State Treasurer, over the life of the repayment period, and (D)  
1109 determine a schedule of interest payments due from the Capitol  
1110 Region Education Council based on the outstanding principal at the  
1111 time the principal payment is made. The Commissioner of  
1112 Construction Services shall notify the Commissioner of Education of  
1113 the annualized repayment amounts for each project that shall be  
1114 withheld from the operating grant paid to the Capitol Region  
1115 Education Council pursuant to section 10-264l of the general statutes at  
1116 such time and in such manner as the Commissioner of Education  
1117 prescribes. The Commissioner of Education shall annually transfer  
1118 such withheld annualized repayment amounts to the School Building  
1119 Construction Fund established pursuant to section 10-287e of the  
1120 general statutes.

1121 Sec. 17. Subdivision (1) of subsection (g) of section 32 of public act  
1122 13-239 is amended to read as follows (*Effective July 1, 2014*):

1123 (g) For the Department of Education:

1124 (1) Grants-in-aid for capital start-up costs related to the  
1125 development of new interdistrict magnet school programs to assist the

1126 state in meeting the goals of the 2008 stipulation and order for Milo  
1127 Sheff, et al. v. William A. O'Neill, et al., as extended, or the goals of the  
1128 2013 stipulation and order for Milo Sheff, et al. v. William A. O'Neill, et  
1129 al. for the purpose of purchasing a building or portable classrooms,  
1130 subject to the reversion provisions in subdivision (1) of subsection (c)  
1131 of section 10-264h of the general statutes, leasing space, and  
1132 purchasing equipment, including, but not limited to, computers and  
1133 classroom furniture, not exceeding \$7,500,000;

1134 Sec. 18. (*Effective from passage*) Notwithstanding the provisions of  
1135 section 19 of public act 13-239, grants-in-aid for capital start-up costs  
1136 paid to the Capitol Region Education Council, in accordance with  
1137 subdivision (1) of subsection (h) of section 13 of public act 13-239, as  
1138 amended by this act, and used pursuant to said subsection (h) shall not  
1139 be subject to lien or repayment.

1140 Sec. 19. (*Effective from passage*) Notwithstanding the provisions of  
1141 section 38 of public act 13-239, grants-in-aid for capital start-up costs  
1142 paid to the Capitol Region Education Council, in accordance with  
1143 subdivision (1) of subsection (g) of section 32 of public act 13-239, as  
1144 amended by this act, and used pursuant to said subsection (g) shall not  
1145 be subject to lien or repayment.

1146 Sec. 20. Subdivision (4) of subsection (a) of section 10-266m of the  
1147 general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu  
1148 thereof (*Effective from passage*):

1149 (4) Notwithstanding the provisions of this section, for the fiscal  
1150 years ending June 30, 2004, to June 30, [2013] 2015, inclusive, the  
1151 amount of transportation grants payable to local or regional boards of  
1152 education shall be reduced proportionately if the total of such grants in  
1153 such year exceeds the amount appropriated for such grants for such  
1154 year.

1155 Sec. 21. Subsections (f) and (g) of section 10-266p of the 2014  
1156 supplement to the general statutes are repealed and the following is  
1157 substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

1158 (f) In addition to the amounts allocated in subsection (a), and  
1159 subsections (c) to (e), inclusive, of this section, for the fiscal year  
1160 ending June 30, 2006, the State Board of Education shall allocate two  
1161 million thirty-nine thousand six hundred eighty-six dollars to the  
1162 towns that rank one to three, inclusive, in population pursuant to  
1163 subdivision (1) of said subsection (a), and for the fiscal years ending  
1164 June 30, 2007, to June 30, [2013] 2015, the State Board of Education shall  
1165 allocate two million six hundred ten thousand seven hundred ninety-  
1166 eight dollars to the towns that rank one to three, inclusive, in  
1167 population pursuant to subdivision (1) of said subsection (a).

1168 (g) In addition to the amounts allocated in subsection (a) and  
1169 subsections (c) to (f), inclusive, of this section, for the fiscal year ending  
1170 June 30, 2012, [and each fiscal year thereafter,] the State Board of  
1171 Education shall allocate three million two hundred sixteen thousand  
1172 nine hundred eight dollars as follows: Each priority school district  
1173 shall receive an allocation based on the ratio of the amount it is eligible  
1174 to receive pursuant to subsection (a) and subsections (c) to (f),  
1175 inclusive, of this section to the total amount all priority school districts  
1176 are eligible to receive pursuant to said subsection (a) and said  
1177 subsections (c) to (f), inclusive. For the fiscal year ending June 30,  
1178 [2013] 2014, the State Board of Education shall allocate [two million  
1179 nine hundred twenty-nine thousand three hundred sixty-four dollars]  
1180 two million nine hundred twenty-five thousand four hundred eighty-  
1181 one dollars as follows: Each priority school district shall receive an  
1182 allocation based on the ratio of the amount it is eligible to receive  
1183 pursuant to subsection (a) of this section and subsections (c) to (f),  
1184 inclusive, of this section to the total amount all priority school districts  
1185 are eligible to receive pursuant to subsection (a) of this section and  
1186 subsections (c) to (f), inclusive, of this section.

1187 Sec. 22. Subdivision (20) of section 10-262f of the 2014 supplement to  
1188 the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu  
1189 thereof (*Effective from passage*):

1190 (20) "Regular program expenditures" means (A) total current

1191 educational expenditures less (B) expenditures for (i) special education  
1192 programs pursuant to subsection (h) of section 10-76f, (ii) pupil  
1193 transportation eligible for reimbursement pursuant to section 10-266m,  
1194 as amended by this act, (iii) land and capital building expenditures,  
1195 and equipment otherwise supported by a state grant pursuant to  
1196 chapter 173, including debt service, [(iii)] (iv) health services for  
1197 nonpublic school children, [(iv)] (v) adult education, (C) expenditures  
1198 directly attributable to (i) state grants received by or on behalf of  
1199 school districts except grants for the categories of expenditures listed  
1200 in subparagraphs (B)(i) to (B)(iv), inclusive, of this subdivision and  
1201 except grants received pursuant to section 10-262i and section 10-262c  
1202 of the general statutes, revision of 1958, revised to January 1, 1987, and  
1203 except grants received pursuant to chapter 173, (ii) federal grants  
1204 received by or on behalf of school districts except for adult education  
1205 and federal impact aid, and (iii) receipts from the operation of child  
1206 nutrition services and student activities services, (D) expenditures of  
1207 funds from private and other sources, and (E) tuition received on  
1208 account of nonresident students. The town of Woodstock may include  
1209 as part of the current expenses of its public schools for each school year  
1210 the amount expended for current expenses in that year by Woodstock  
1211 Academy from income from its endowment funds upon receipt from  
1212 said academy of a certified statement of such current expenses. The  
1213 town of Winchester may include as part of the current expenses of its  
1214 public school for each school year the amount expended for current  
1215 expenses in that year by the Gilbert School from income from its  
1216 endowment funds upon receipt from said school of a certified  
1217 statement of such current expenses.

1218 Sec. 23. Subdivision (43) of section 10-262f of the 2014 supplement to  
1219 the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu  
1220 thereof (*Effective from passage*):

1221 (43) "Median household income adjustment factor" means the ratio  
1222 of the median household income of the town to one and one-half times  
1223 the median household income of the town with the median household  
1224 income when all towns are ranked according to median household

1225 income.

1226 Sec. 24. Subsections (b) to (d), inclusive, of section 10-66ee of the  
1227 2014 supplement to the general statutes are repealed and the following  
1228 is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

1229 (b) (1) The local board of education of the school district in which a  
1230 student enrolled in a local charter school resides shall pay, annually, in  
1231 accordance with its charter, to the fiscal authority for the charter school  
1232 for each such student the amount specified in its charter, including the  
1233 reasonable special education costs of students requiring special  
1234 education. The board of education shall be eligible for reimbursement  
1235 for such special education costs pursuant to section 10-76g.

1236 (2) The local or regional board of education of the school district in  
1237 which the local charter school is located shall be responsible for the  
1238 financial support of such local charter school at a level that is at least  
1239 equal to the product of (A) the per pupil cost for the [prior fiscal year,  
1240 less the reimbursement pursuant to section 10-76g for the current fiscal  
1241 year] fiscal year two years prior to the fiscal year for which support  
1242 will be provided, and (B) the number of students attending such local  
1243 charter school in the current fiscal year. As used in this subdivision,  
1244 "per pupil cost" means, for a local or regional board of education, the  
1245 quotient of the [net current expenditures] current program  
1246 expenditures, as defined in [subdivision (3) of section 10-261] section  
1247 10-262f, as amended by this act, divided by the [average daily  
1248 membership, as defined in subdivision (2) of section 10-261,] number  
1249 of resident students, as defined in section 10-262f, as amended by this  
1250 act, of such local or regional board of education.

1251 (c) (1) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2014, and each fiscal year  
1252 thereafter, the State Board of Education may approve, within available  
1253 appropriations, a per student grant to a local charter school described  
1254 in subsection [(b)] (c) of section [10-66nn] 10-66bb in an amount not to  
1255 exceed three thousand dollars for each student enrolled in such local  
1256 charter school, provided the local or regional board of education for  
1257 such local charter school and the representatives of the exclusive

1258 bargaining unit for certified employees, chosen pursuant to section 10-  
1259 153b, mutually agree on staffing flexibility in such local charter school,  
1260 and such agreement is approved by the State Board of Education. [For  
1261 the purposes of equalization aid grants pursuant to section 10-262h,  
1262 the] The state shall make such payments, in accordance with this  
1263 subsection, to the town in which a local charter school is located as  
1264 follows: Twenty-five per cent of the amount not later than July  
1265 fifteenth and September first based on estimated student enrollment  
1266 on May first, and twenty-five per cent of the amount not later than  
1267 January first and the remaining amount not later than April [fifteenth]  
1268 first, each based on student enrollment on October first.

1269 (2) The town shall pay to the fiscal authority for a local charter  
1270 school the portion of the amount paid to the town pursuant to  
1271 subdivision (1) of this subsection attributable for students enrolled in  
1272 such local charter school. Such payments shall be made as follows:  
1273 Twenty-five per cent of the amount not later than July twentieth and  
1274 September fifteenth and twenty-five per cent of the amount not later  
1275 than January fifteenth and the remaining amount not later than April  
1276 fifteenth.

1277 (d) (1) For the purposes of equalization aid grants pursuant to  
1278 section 10-262h, the state shall pay in accordance with this subsection,  
1279 to the town in which a state charter school is located for each student  
1280 enrolled in such school, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2013, ten  
1281 thousand two hundred dollars, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2014,  
1282 ten thousand five hundred dollars, and for the fiscal year ending June  
1283 30, 2015, and each fiscal year thereafter, eleven thousand dollars. Such  
1284 payments shall be made as follows: Twenty-five per cent of the  
1285 amount not later than July fifteenth and September first based on  
1286 estimated student enrollment on May first, and twenty-five per cent of  
1287 the amount not later than January first and the remaining amount not  
1288 later than April [fifteenth] first, each based on student enrollment on  
1289 October first. Notwithstanding the provisions of this subdivision, the  
1290 payment of the remaining amount made not later than April 15, 2013,  
1291 shall be within available appropriations and may be adjusted for each

1292 student on a pro rata basis.

1293 (2) The town shall pay to the fiscal authority for a state charter  
1294 school the portion of the amount paid to the town pursuant to  
1295 subdivision (1) of this subsection attributable for students enrolled in  
1296 such state charter school. Such payments shall be made as follows:  
1297 Twenty-five per cent of the amount not later than July twentieth and  
1298 September fifteenth and twenty-five per cent of the amount not later  
1299 than January fifteenth and the remaining amount not later than April  
1300 fifteenth.

1301 (3) In the case of a student identified as requiring special education,  
1302 the school district in which the student resides shall: (A) Hold the  
1303 planning and placement team meeting for such student and shall  
1304 invite representatives from the charter school to participate in such  
1305 meeting; and (B) pay the state charter school, on a quarterly basis, an  
1306 amount equal to the difference between the reasonable cost of  
1307 educating such student and the sum of the amount received by the  
1308 state charter school for such student pursuant to subdivision (2) of this  
1309 subsection and amounts received from other state, federal, local or  
1310 private sources calculated on a per pupil basis. Such school district  
1311 shall be eligible for reimbursement pursuant to section 10-76g. The  
1312 charter school a student requiring special education attends shall be  
1313 responsible for ensuring that such student receives the services  
1314 mandated by the student's individualized education program whether  
1315 such services are provided by the charter school or by the school  
1316 district in which the student resides.

1317 Sec. 25. Subsection (b) of section 10-10c of the general statutes is  
1318 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from*  
1319 *passage*):

1320 (b) For the fiscal year ending June 30, [2015] 2016, and each fiscal  
1321 year thereafter, each local or regional board of education, regional  
1322 educational service center and state charter school shall implement  
1323 such uniform system of accounting by completing and filing annual  
1324 financial reports with the department using the chart of accounts and



1325 meet the provisions of section 10-227.

1326 Sec. 26. Subsection (c) of section 10-262i of the 2014 supplement to  
1327 the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu  
1328 thereof (*Effective from passage*):

1329 (c) All aid distributed to a town pursuant to the provisions of this  
1330 section and section 10-262u, as amended by this act, shall be expended  
1331 for educational purposes only and shall be expended upon the  
1332 authorization of the local or regional board of education and in  
1333 accordance with the provisions of section 10-262u, as amended by this  
1334 act. For the fiscal year ending June 30, 1999, and each fiscal year  
1335 thereafter, if a town receives an increase in funds pursuant to this  
1336 section over the amount it received for the prior fiscal year, such  
1337 increase shall not be used to supplant local funding for educational  
1338 purposes. The budgeted appropriation for education in any town  
1339 receiving an increase in funds pursuant to this section shall be not less  
1340 than the amount appropriated for education for the prior year plus  
1341 such increase in funds.

1342 Sec. 27. Subsection (c) of section 10-262u of the 2014 supplement to  
1343 the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu  
1344 thereof (*Effective from passage*):

1345 (c) (1) (A) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2013, the Comptroller  
1346 shall withhold from a town designated as an alliance district any  
1347 increase in funds received over the amount the town received for the  
1348 prior fiscal year pursuant to section 10-262h. The Comptroller shall  
1349 transfer such funds to the Commissioner of Education. (B) For the  
1350 fiscal years ending June 30, 2014, and June 30, 2015, the Comptroller  
1351 shall withhold from a town designated as an alliance district any  
1352 increase in funds received over the amount the town received for the  
1353 fiscal year ending June 30, 2012, pursuant to subsection (a) of section  
1354 10-262i. The Comptroller shall transfer such funds to the  
1355 Commissioner of Education.

1356 (2) Upon receipt of an application pursuant to subsection (d) of this

1357 section, the Commissioner of Education may pay such funds to the  
 1358 town designated as an alliance district and such town shall pay all  
 1359 such funds to the local or regional board of education for such town on  
 1360 the condition that such funds shall be expended in accordance with the  
 1361 plan described in subsection (d) of this section, the provisions of  
 1362 subsection (c) of section 10-262i, as amended by this act, and any  
 1363 guidelines developed by the State Board of Education for such funds.  
 1364 Such funds shall be used to improve student achievement in such  
 1365 alliance district and to offset any other local education costs approved  
 1366 by the commissioner.

1367 Sec. 28. Subdivision (2) of subsection (b) of section 10-16q of the  
 1368 general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu  
 1369 thereof (*Effective July 1, 2014*):

1370 (2) For the fiscal year ending June 30, [2009] 2015, and each fiscal  
 1371 year thereafter, the per child cost of the Department of Education  
 1372 school readiness program offered by a school readiness provider shall  
 1373 not exceed eight thousand [three] six hundred [forty-six] sixty-one  
 1374 dollars.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>July 1, 2014</i>	10-264l
Sec. 2	<i>July 1, 2014</i>	New section
Sec. 3	<i>July 1, 2014</i>	New section
Sec. 4	<i>July 1, 2014</i>	10-264i(a)
Sec. 5	<i>July 1, 2014</i>	10-264h(a)
Sec. 6	<i>July 1, 2014</i>	10-264o
Sec. 7	<i>July 1, 2014</i>	10-66ee(l)
Sec. 8	<i>July 1, 2014</i>	10-262s
Sec. 9	<i>July 1, 2014</i>	10-266m(a)(5)
Sec. 10	<i>July 1, 2014</i>	10-266aa(o)
Sec. 11	<i>July 1, 2014</i>	10-283
Sec. 12	<i>July 1, 2014</i>	PA 13-239, Sec. 13(h)
Sec. 13	<i>from passage</i>	New section
Sec. 14	<i>from passage</i>	New section
Sec. 15	<i>from passage</i>	New section

Sec. 16	<i>July 1, 2014</i>	PA 11-57, Sec. 96
Sec. 17	<i>July 1, 2014</i>	PA 13-239, Sec. 32(g)(1)
Sec. 18	<i>from passage</i>	New section
Sec. 19	<i>from passage</i>	New section
Sec. 20	<i>from passage</i>	10-266m(a)(4)
Sec. 21	<i>from passage</i>	10-266p(f) and (g)
Sec. 22	<i>from passage</i>	10-262f(20)
Sec. 23	<i>from passage</i>	10-262f(43)
Sec. 24	<i>from passage</i>	10-66ee(b) to (d)
Sec. 25	<i>from passage</i>	10-10c(b)
Sec. 26	<i>from passage</i>	10-262i(c)
Sec. 27	<i>from passage</i>	10-262u(c)
Sec. 28	<i>July 1, 2014</i>	10-16q(b)(2)

**Statement of Legislative Commissioners:**

In section 10-66ee(b)(2), made a technical change.

**ED**            *Joint Favorable Subst.*

The following Fiscal Impact Statement and Bill Analysis are prepared for the benefit of the members of the General Assembly, solely for purposes of information, summarization and explanation and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either chamber thereof for any purpose. In general, fiscal impacts are based upon a variety of informational sources, including the analyst's professional knowledge. Whenever applicable, agency data is consulted as part of the analysis, however final products do not necessarily reflect an assessment from any specific department.

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### **OFA Fiscal Note**

**State Impact:** See Below

**Municipal Impact:** See Below

### **Explanation**

The bill makes various changes to *Sheff* schools, implements provisions of sHB 5030, the FY 15 Revised Budget, as favorably reported by the Appropriations Committee, increases reimbursement rates for School Readiness, and makes other clarifying and technical changes.

**Section 1** of the bill provides a revised definition of racial diversity under the interdistrict magnet school law as it applies to *Sheff* magnet schools. This makes it easier to reach the racial goals of *Sheff* because some students who used to count as minority will now count as nonminority. Correspondingly, this could result in an increased cost to the state, and schools that otherwise would not have been eligible for a higher grant, now could be eligible. The annual per pupil grants vary by type of school, and compliance status. **Section 1** also restricts the number of students from a participating district that may enroll in the magnet in order to meet the bill's reduced isolation standard, which, as described above, makes it easier to meet the *Sheff* goals, thus resulting in increased costs to the state.

Additionally, **Section 1** modifies the payment schedule, based on a trimester school year, for the per student magnet school grant paid to Goodwin College for the College Academy magnet school, which will not result in a fiscal impact as the payment schedule does not have a budgetary impact.

Lastly, **Section 1** caps the share of the total magnet school appropriation to the State Department of Education (SDE) that may be retained for evaluation and administration, at \$500,000. This results in a savings as SDE was able to retain additional funding. sHB 5030, the FY 15 Revised Budget, as favorably reported by the Appropriations Committee, included savings of \$1 million associated with this initiative.

**Section 2** requires the State Department of Education (SDE) to, within available appropriations, award a grant up to \$250,000 to the Hartford school district for program development and expansion of the Dr. Joseph S. Renzulli Gifted and Talented Academy. sHB 5030, the FY 15 Revised Budget, as favorably reported by the Appropriations Committee, includes funding for this purpose.

**Section 3** creates a program for the Hartford School District to receive an annual grant to convert an existing neighborhood school into a *Sheff* Lighthouse School. SDE will award, within available appropriations, an annual grant of \$750,000 to Hartford for FY 15 through FY 18 to assist in the development of curricula and staff training for the *Sheff* Lighthouse. sHB 5030, the FY 15 Revised Budget, as favorably reported by the Appropriations Committee, includes funding for this purpose.

**Section 4** makes a procedural change to the payment schedule for supplemental transportation and does not result in a fiscal impact.

**Sections 5-12 and 17** make technical changes related to the new *Sheff* stipulation and are not anticipated to result in a fiscal impact.

**Sections 13 to 16** result in a cost to the state of \$70.9 million by making changes that authorize SDE to pay for 100% of the reimbursable construction costs for three new *Sheff* magnet schools. The cost is attributable to changing the current rate of reimbursement for the projects from 80% to 95% and then authorizing the state to pay the local share of the projects. The cost of principal payments totals \$46.5 million with interest totaling \$24.4 million over future years.

**Sections 18 and 19** eliminate the local share of eligible project costs for three CREC schools, which reduces the state's accounts receivable by \$24.5 million total. This reduction increases by \$24.5 million the state's accumulated GAAP deficit, which is estimated to be \$618.6 million currently.

**Section 20** extends a cap on the state transportation formula grant, through FY 15. If the cap were not extended, the state would be responsible for issuing approximately \$59 million in additional grants to municipalities. Extending the cap results in a savings to the state and a corresponding revenue loss to municipalities. sHB 5030, the FY 15 Revised Budget, as favorably reported by the Appropriations Committee, includes funding of \$24.9 million in the Transportation of School Children grant, which implements this change.

**Section 21** ensures that money appropriated for the Priority School District grant, in FY 14 and FY 15 is spent in the appropriate year, this change is clarifying, and does not result in a fiscal impact.

**Sections 22 and 23** make technical changes that are not anticipated to result in a fiscal impact.

**Section 24** changes the formula for how much funding a local or regional board of education must provide to a local charter school that it sponsors, which results in a change in the internal distribution of funds within a district, and does not result in a fiscal impact.

**Section 25** extends the deadline, from June 30, 2015 to June 30, 2016, for each board of education, RESC, and state charter school to implement a uniform system of accounting for school revenues and expenditures that includes a chart of accounts. This delays a potentially significant cost to municipalities, associated with creating a uniform chart of accounts.

**Sections 26-27** include non-supplant language regarding alliance district funds. This provision is clarifying, and does not result in a fiscal impact.

**Section 28** could result in a cost associated with increasing the maximum per student cost for school readiness spaces from \$8,346 to \$8,661 in FY 15. If the new rate is applied to all current full day, full year spaces, it would result in an additional cost of \$2,128,140.

sHB 5030, the revised FY 15 budget bill, as favorably reported by the Appropriations Committee includes additional funding in the Office of Early Childhood (OEC) of \$2,191,391 for existing full-day, full year school readiness spaces at a rate of \$8,670. It should be noted that school readiness and related funding was transferred from the State Department of Education to OEC in PA 13-184, the FY 14 - FY 15 Biennial Budget, as amended by PA 13-247.

### ***The Out Years***

The annualized ongoing fiscal impact identified above would continue into the future subject to inflation.

**OLR Bill Analysis****sHB 5043*****AN ACT IMPLEMENTING THE BUDGET RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE GOVERNOR CONCERNING EDUCATION.*****SUMMARY:**

This bill provides numerous changes to the education statutes, including:

1. implementing numerous provisions of the new *Sheff* desegregation stipulation including (a) authorizing increased state construction reimbursement rates for three new magnet schools, (b) authorizing, within available appropriations, an annual grant of \$750,000 for four years to Hartford for a *Sheff* lighthouse school, and (c) changing the definition of minority student under *Sheff* so Asian and Native American students are no longer considered racial minorities;
2. increasing the state school readiness maximum cost reimbursement from \$8,346 to \$8,661 per student;
3. capping school transportation grants; and
4. delaying for a year, until June 30, 2016, the deadline for school districts to implement a new mandated chart of accounts

A section-by-section analysis follows.

EFFECTIVE DATE: various

**§§ 1-19 — *SHEFF V. O'NEILL* – 2013 STIPULATION**

The bill contains numerous provisions intended to carry out the newest phase of *Sheff v. O'Neill*, the ongoing Hartford school desegregation court case. In December 2013, the state and the *Sheff*



plaintiffs reached a new agreement regarding additional efforts to integrate Hartford schools and the agreement was formalized in court as a stipulation and order (officially referred to as the Phase III stipulation).

The bill makes numerous changes to place in statute references to the new *Sheff* stipulation that are conforming and technical with no substantive change.

### **§ 1 — Revised Definition of Racial Diversity**

The bill provides a revised definition of racial diversity under the interdistrict magnet school law as it applies to *Sheff* magnets schools. Current law requires a magnet school to have at least 25% but no more than 75% minority students, and racial minorities are defined as those whose (1) race is other than white or (2) ethnicity is defined as Hispanic or Latino by the U.S. Census. The bill adds that, for *Sheff* magnets, the enrollment must meet the reduced isolation setting standards of the 2013 stipulation, which means no more than 75% of the students can identify themselves as any part Black/African American or any part Hispanic. Thus, for purposes of *Sheff* magnets, Asians, Alaskan Natives, Native Americans, Native Hawaiians or other Pacific Islanders will not be counted as minorities. This, in turn, makes it will be somewhat easier to reach the racial goals of *Sheff* because some students who used to count as minority will now count as nonminority.

The new definition also provides that a school that enrolls Hartford-resident minority students through the Open Choice program will be deemed to provide a reduced-isolation setting (see Lighthouse School below).

The bill requires a magnet school governing authority to restrict the number of students from a participating district enrolling in the magnet school in order to meet the bill's reduced isolation standard. A governing authority may be a board of education, a regional education service center (RESC), an institution of higher education, or a

combination of these.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2014

**§ 1 — Payment Schedule for Goodwin College Academy Magnet School and Limit on SDE Expense for Administration**

The bill modifies the payment schedule, based on a trimester school year, for the per-student magnet school grant paid to Goodwin College for the College Academy magnet school. Under current law, initial payments to governing authorities must generally be made by September 1 with the remainder paid by May 1.

For FY 15 and each following year, the bill requires SDE to pay Goodwin College for operating the College Academy magnet as follows for each student enrolled:

1. in the summer term at the beginning of the fiscal year, 50% of the grant by August 1 the balance no later than either (a) September 1 for each such student who enrolls in the second trimester term or (b) May 1 for each such student who enrolls in the third trimester term; and
2. in the second trimester term of the fiscal year for a student who was not enrolled in the preceding summer term, 50% by September 1 and the balance by May 1 of the fiscal year if the student who enrolls in the third trimester term.

The May payment must be adjusted to reflect actual enrollment in the magnet school program as of the preceding summer and second trimester terms. The adjustment must initially use data of record as of the intervening October 1 and, later, data as of March 1, if the actual level of enrollment is lower than the projected enrollment included in the grant application. The May payment can be further adjusted for the difference between the total grant received in the prior fiscal year and the revised grant amount calculated for the prior fiscal year in cases where the financial audit submitted by the magnet school governing authority indicates an SDE overpayment.

The bill also caps at no more than \$500,000, the share of the total magnet school appropriation that SDE may retain for evaluation and administration.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2014

## **§ 2 — *Renzulli Gifted and Talented Academy***

The bill requires SDE to, within available appropriations, award a grant up to \$250,000 to the Hartford school district for program development and expansion of the Dr. Joseph S. Renzulli Gifted and Talented Academy to assist the state in meeting the *Sheff* 2013 stipulation goals. Application for the grant funds must be submitted annually to the education commissioner at a time and in a manner as he prescribes.

The bill also states that starting with the 2014-15 school year, any student who is not a Hartford resident who applies and is enrolled at Renzulli will be considered enrolled under the state's Open Choice program. The Open Choice program aims to reduce racial isolation by giving districts grants for accepting students from other districts. The bill permits any student accepted into Renzulli, based on the Renzulli's selective admissions policy, to be considered part of Open Choice, regardless of race. This allows the Hartford school district, Renzulli's parent district, to receive a per-student Open Choice grant for any student from outside Hartford who attends the school.

The bill specifies that the grants Renzulli receives under these provisions does not reduce its eligibility for any other state grant to which it may be entitled.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2014

## **§ 3 — *Sheff Lighthouse School***

The bill creates a program for the Hartford school district to receive an annual grant to convert an existing neighborhood school into a *Sheff* lighthouse school. SDE must, within available appropriations, award an annual grant of \$750,000 to Hartford for FY 15 through FY 18 to

assist in the development of curricula and staff training for the *Sheff* lighthouse.

The bill refers to the 2013 *Sheff* stipulation to define the Lighthouse schools as schools designated for additional funding and initiatives designed to improve educational outcomes while serving neighborhood or citywide populations. By offering improved programs, the schools aim to stabilize neighborhoods and improve racial integration. The stipulation states that all teachers at the lighthouse school teachers will remain Hartford public school teachers.

The bill requires the selection of the lighthouse school to be done through a collaborative process approved by the Hartford board of education and education commissioner. (Hartford has already started the process.)

The bill also states that starting with the 2014-15 school year, any student who is not a Hartford resident can apply to enroll in the lighthouse school and, if enrolled, will be considered enrolled under the state's Open Choice program. This means the Hartford school district receives a per-student Open Choice grant for any student who attends the lighthouse school who is not from Hartford.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2014

#### **§ 4 — Supplemental Sheff Magnet Transportation Grants**

The bill extends specific payment dates for supplemental *Sheff* magnet school transportation grants consistent with payment dates for previous fiscal years. For FYs 14 and 15, SDE must pay up to 50% of the grant by June 30 and the balance by September 1 upon completion of the comprehensive financial review.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2014

#### **§§ 5-12 & 17 — Technical Changes**

These sections make technical changes related to the new *Sheff* stipulation.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2014

**§§ 13-16 — Sheff School Construction Reimbursement Rate  
Changes and Authorization for Education Commissioner to Pay  
CREC's Local Construction Share**

The bill authorizes SDE to pay 100% of the reimbursable construction costs for three new *Sheff* magnet schools. The schools are Greater Hartford Academy of the Arts Elementary Magnet School, Greater Hartford Academy of the Arts Middle Magnet School, and the Two Rivers Magnet High School; all existing schools that are moving to new facilities.

First, it authorizes a 95%, rather than an 80%, state reimbursement rate for three magnet schools planned by the Capital Region Education Council (CREC). By law, magnet schools receive an 80% reimbursement rate. Towns, regional districts and regional education service centers, like CREC, are reimbursed by the state for eligible school construction costs.

Second, by law, towns and districts pay a share of school construction costs. The bill authorizes the education commissioner to pay both the state and local shares of eligible project cost for the three CREC schools mentioned above. The bill adds this authorization to an existing special act provision that gave the commissioner the same authority for six other CREC projects.

EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon passage, except for the authorization regarding the local share of school construction costs, which is effective July 1, 2014.

**§§ 18 & 19 — Capital Startup Grant Liens or Repayments**

This bill exempts CREC from lien or repayment of capital startup cost grants of up to \$17 million in one previous school construction project authorization and up to \$7.5 million in another.

Both grant authorizations were to purchase buildings or portable classrooms, lease space, and purchase equipment, including,

computers and classroom furniture.

EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon passage

## **§ 20 — CAP ON STATE TRANSPORTATION GRANTS**

The bill extends a cap on state transportation formula grants to school districts and regional education service centers (RESCs) for two more fiscal years, through June 30, 2015. The cap requires grants to be proportionately reduced when the state budget appropriations do not cover the full amounts required by the statutory formula. This grant was not capped last year when a number of other education grants were. In practice, SDE has operated this current fiscal year as if the cap were in place.

EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon passage

## **§ 21 — CHANGE TO PRIORITY SCHOOL DISTRICT AID**

The bill (1) places an end date on a portion of the priority school district funding, (2) makes a small adjustment to another portion of the money for FY 14, and (3) extends an existing provision of the priority district funding to FY 15.

Under current law, there is an annual SBE allocation of \$3,216,908 for part of the priority school district funding. The bill ends this allocation as of June 30, 2012. Priority districts are school districts with high levels of student poverty and low student scores on standardized tests. By law, they are eligible for certain additional state aid.

EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon passage

## **§§ 22 & 23 — TECHNICAL CHANGES**

These sections make technical changes.

EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon passage

## **§§ 24 — CHANGES TO CHARTER SCHOOL LAW**

The bill changes the formula for determining how much funding a local or regional board of education must provide to a local charter

school it sponsors. Under current law, the funding support from the board is the product of the number of students and the per-pupil cost for the prior year minus the state reimbursement for special education excess costs. The bill changes the second part of the equation to the per-pupil cost for the fiscal year two years before the year the board funding will be provided and does not subtract the reimbursement received under the special education excess cost grant.

It also changes the definition of per-pupil cost for the local or regional board from net current expenditure divided by average daily student membership to current program expenditures divided by number of resident students.

Finally, it changes the date, from April 15 to April 1, by which the state must make the final installment of its scheduled four part payment to a local charter school for the per-student annual grant. Currently, there are no local charter schools in Connecticut but one has been approved to open in New Haven this fall.

EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon passage

## **§ 25 — REQUIRED ADOPTION OF CHART OF ACCOUNTS DELAYED**

The bill delays the deadline, from June 30, 2015 to June 30, 2016, for each board of education, RESC, and state charter school to implement a uniform system of accounting for school revenues and expenditures that includes a chart of accounts for use at the school and school district level. Each board of education, RESC, and state charter school must implement the system by filing annual financial reports using a chart of accounts that meets statutory requirements. By law, boards of education (1) annually submit receipts, expenditures, and statistics to the education commissioner and (2) have the information certified by an independent public accountant selected to audit municipal accounts.

By law, SDE must develop this system, which must include in the chart of accounts (1) all amounts and sources of revenue that a board

of education, RESC, charter school, or charter management organization receives and (2) cash or real property donations to a school district or school totaling an aggregate of \$500 or more.

EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon passage

## **§§ 26 & 27 — ALLIANCE DISTRICT FUNDS AND NONSUPPLANT PROVISION**

The bill explicitly requires state education aid for an alliance districts to be expended for educational purposes only on the authorization of the local board of education in accordance with the law authorizing alliance district funding. This “nonsupplant” provision because it prevents education funds from being diverted for noneducation purposes.

Alliance districts, the 30 school districts with the lowest district performance index scores, receive increased state education aid and must expend the aid to further the goals of an improvement plan approved by SDE.

EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon passage

## **§ 28 — SCHOOL READINESS COST REIMBURSEMENT**

The bill increases the maximum SDE school readiness per-child reimbursement from \$8,346 to \$8,661. The increase begins with FY 15 and continues every year thereafter.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2014

## **BACKGROUND**

### ***Related Bill***

sSB 26, An Act Expanding Opportunities for Early Childhood Education, favorably reported by the Education Committee, also increases the school readiness per-child grant to \$8,661.

### ***Sheff v. O'Neill***

In 1996, the Connecticut Supreme Court ruled in *Sheff v. O'Neill* that the racial, ethnic, and economic isolation of Hartford public schools



students violated their right to equal educational opportunity and ordered the state to devise a solution. Since then, the state and the plaintiffs have agreed to a number of voluntary efforts to reduce racial isolation for Hartford students that have been carried out through three separate stipulations. The latest, the Phase III stipulation, covers the period from December 13, 2013 to June 30, 2015.

**COMMITTEE ACTION**

Education Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute

Yea    33    Nay   0    (03/24/2014)